U.S. Express Mail No. E-74143355US Attorney Docket No.: AM-3708.C1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Stephen Moffatt

\$ GROUP ART UNIT: 2881

\$ (Parent Application)

SERIAL NO.: Not yet assigned

\$ EXAMINER: J. L. Smith

FILED: November 10, 2003

\$ (Parent Application)

\$ (Parent Application)

\$ Attorney Docket No.:

SUBSTRATE WITHIN A PROCESSING CHAMBER

\$ AM-3708.C1

Date: November 10, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT "A"

Hon. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment "A" accompanies a continuation application of U.S. Application Serial No. 10/049,755, filed February 12, 2002, which is currently pending; which claims priority under 35 USC § 119 to PCT Application No. PCT/US00/21377, filed August 4, 2000; which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/147,684, filed August 6, 1999.

Claims 1 - 40 are pending in the application.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.10

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as U.S. EXPRESS MAIL NO. ER074143355US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: November 10, 2003

Shirley L. Church, Reg. No. 31,858

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The following claim rejections were made in the parent application, U.S. Serial No. 10/049,755:

Claims 1 - 9, 11 - 14, 17, 19, 21, and 23 - 40 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,452,177, to Frutiger.

Claims 10, 15, 16, 18, 20, and 22 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Frutiger, in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,581,324, to Miyai et al.

Please amend the application as follows:

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IN THE TITLE:

At page 1, line 1, please delete the Title in its entirety and replace with the following Title:

-- SUBSTRATE HOLDER FOR RETAINING A SUBSTRATE WITHIN A PROCESSING CHAMBER --